

NO PROSECUTION FOR DISCLOSING CIA FINANCING

From Post-Dispatch Wire Services
WASHINGTON, Feb. 20—The

Government is unlikely to prosecute students who told of their relationship with the Central Intelligence Agency, says the general counsel for the spy organization.

Lawrence R. Houston said that "these boys were pushed into a corner" by disclosure that the CIA had financed international activities of the National Student Association.

He said intent to breach national security must be shown before a prosecution can be achieved.

However, Houston said in a telephone interview last night that the students did not have carte blanche to tell everything about their dealings with the CIA.

"But I can't conceive the Government would prosecute any of them for what they have said so far," he said.

Threats Reported

Some NSA board members said last week after the link was revealed that they had been threatened with jail sentences for breach of security oaths if they disclosed the CIA dealings.

Another allegation in the far-reaching case was made yesterday by The Nation magazine, which said grants from CIA-backed foundations went to operations and Policy Research, Inc., a subsidiary of the United States Information Service.

A long list of foundations and organizations, ranging from the World Assembly of Youth in Brussels, Belgium, to the American Newspaper Guild AFL-CIO in Washington, have been named as involved with the CIA.

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Some, such as the newspaper union, have denied any knowledge of the link.

The New York Times said an organization headed by Richard M. Hunt, an assistant dean of the Harvard University graduate school of arts and sciences, had received money from a foundation identified as a channel for CIA funds.

Received \$25,000

In 1965, records on file at the Massachusetts attorney general's office indicate, Hunt's organization, the Fund for International Social and Economic Education of Philadelphia, received \$25,000 from the J. Frederick Brown Foundation of Boston. The fund, its brochure says, finances workers' education projects, scholarships and research work for trade unionists, and social studies scholars from Africa, Asia and Latin America. The money received from the Brown Foundation was used for undisclosed work in Latin America.

Hunt's organization has also received money from the Pappas Charitable Trust of Boston, which has given funds to other groups that have been regularly obtaining money from CIA conduit foundations.

Hunt acknowledged receipt of the funds from the Brown and Pappas foundations but said he had no knowledge that the money was from the intelligence agency. He said that as far as he knew the money was from "private sources." He said his organization had no relationship with the CIA.

Harvard's Position

A spokesman for Harvard said the university did not accept contracts for "research projects that cannot be published. But an individual member of the faculty can make his own decision about the use of his own time."

He said the university might have accepted money from the CIA for publishable research projects, but he did not know of any such incident.

The International Market Institute, a private organization that uses the facilities of the Harvard Business School for seminars, has been accepting grants from the Independence Foundation of Boston, another CIA conduit.

About 500 middle-ranking business executives from 80 countries have attended the summer seminars on marketing techniques.

Two more Senators said yesterday that Congress should keep closer check on the CIA. Some congressmen have called for an investigation.

Senator Jacob K. Javits (Rep.), New York, said that "things that should have been open were clandestine. You've put the public in the kind of doubt that should never arise." He said President Lyndon B. Johnson should have supervised the agency more closely and that Congress should apply "legislative oversight."

CIA Observer Urged

Senator J. William Fulbright CIA should be required to report on its activities more regularly to an overseer such as a congressional committee.

He, too, said Government support to organizations such as NSA should be open.

Senator Gale McGee (Dem.), Wyoming, said, however, that the CIA's action in subsidizing student groups was an "ugly necessity for the realities of the times."

He said deception was "par for the course" in intelligence gathering and said there probably still was a need for such action.